MATWATCH

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CAPITOL COMBAT EDITION

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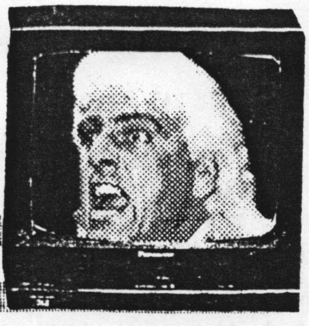

For World Titles

DOOMED NO MORE; STEINERS FALL.

WASHINGTON, D.C.----In a brutal power contest, Ron Simmons and Butch Reed erased the title of DOOMED from their team by upsetting the Steiner Brothers to win the NWA world tag titles at CAPITOL COMBAT here Saturday night.

DOOM's win in 19:20 came after a strong performance from the Steiners in the first ten minutes. Scott Steiner scored the first two Steinerlines at 4:30 and Rick powerslammed Butch Reed on the floor at 7:36, following up with a reverse piledriver.

But in the second ten minutes, Reed scored a 2-count on Scott with a bulldog at 15:42, following with a piledriver. Ron Simmons kept the momentum until Scott popped the crowd with a Frankensteiner at 17:36 to tag in Rick.

Reed was doublesuplexed at 18:57 but Rick was thrown outside and a brawl erupted. As Scott drove Simmons outside, Ron reversed a headlock and posted Scott. As Rick prepared a belly-to-belly suplex on Reed, Simmons pulled Rick down and Reed fell onto Rick and scored the pin at 19:20 to win the belts.

MATCH RATING: POWERSLAM-PLUS....Reed & Simmons keep improving.

MATWATCH 25 SCALE

Announcing	4.3	Production	3.8
Crowd Enthusiasm	3.9	Overall Excellence	3.3
Matches	2.8	TOTAL	18.1

Here We Go Again

FLAIR RETAINS TITLE IN RIPOFF FINISH

WASHINGTON, D.C.---In what may stand out as an ultimate destruction of the integrity of a cage match, Ric Flair retained the NWA world heavyweight title in 19:46 over Lex Luger in the main event of CAPITOL COMBAT Saturday night when Ole Anderson gained control of the cage lever, allowing Barry Windham to sneak under and run in, breaking up Luger's torture rack.

At the 17-minute mark, Ole, Arn Anderson and Sid Vicious approached ringside as Luger was rallying to take the offense. But Sting, accompanied by the debuting 7-foot-6 El Gigante (Jorge Gonzales)---who was profiled after the show on CBS' SATURDAY NIGHT WITH CONNIE CHUNG, ran off the Horsemen. Luger, wrestling for the first time in more than two weeks after being hospitalized with a severe staph infection, had scored four near-falls with two military presses and a clothesline and was all but champion when Windham ran in to give Luger a DQ win and save the belt for Flair. Ole controlled the cage long enough to allow Arn and Vicious in the ring to pound on Luger for fully two minutes until Sting and Gigante finally managed to run off the Horsemen.

In a wildly incoherent post-match interview, the bleeding Flair (who juiced for the first time since FALL BRAWL) was attacked by Sting. Gigante came up and assisted, Zeus-style, as the show ended.

Luger scored a 2 1/2 count with a clothesline at 1:25 and didn't sell many of Flair's chops or offense in the first 10 minutes. He rammed Flair into a the cage about 20 feet up and Flair began to juice at 9:15. But when Luger went to for a finishing superplex at 10:15, his "knee popped" and at 12:45, Flair went for a figure-4 and held onto the ropes for leverage until Mike Atkins forced a break at 14:10 when Luger began his finishing rally, which brought a huge clothesline for a 2 5/6 count at 15:40.

Several questions: in a cage match, why was Flair's manager WOMAN allowed in? For regular fans, why isn't the NWA title held up after an angle such as this? And after five tries on pay-per-views, is Luger dead as a contender? MATCH RATING: POWERSLAM-PLUS....a PILEDRIVER until the finish.

CHUNG PROFILE AIRS ON CBS

NEW YORK---Ric Flair a "pretender to the throne of Hulk Hogan?" That was one keynote of the long-awaited SATURDAY NIGHT WITH CONNIE CHUNG profile of Ted Turner's association with wrestling this past Saturday. Chung used the line to contrast Flair's popularity with Hogan's.

During the segment, ex-wrestler Jim Wilson told Chung his story of being blackballed for refusing to go along with promoter Jim Barnett's wishes for his career. Chung led into the segment, telling viewers, "Professional wrestling is fake. And it makes millions of dollars."

Art designers were shown creating the costume worn by El Gigante (Jorge Gonzales) at CAPITOL COMBAT. WCW executive Jim Herd, Lex Luger, Sting and the Road Warriors were all interviewed, with Sting relating how he was cool to his first offer to become a pro wrestler. Scenes featured several recent TBS and NWA pay-per-view shows, along with shots and references to past NWA performers Steve Williams and Dan Spivey.

Chung made a timely reference to CAPITOL COMBAT, telling the audience Luger was again going for the NWA world belt. Thursday night on CBS, USWA champion Jerry Lawler is profiled on the hour special, PEOPLE MAGAZINE ON TV.

ROAD WARRIORS/NORMAN d. KEVIN SULLIVAN/CACTUS JACK/BAM BAM BIGELOW: Better than you think and a decent brawl. For the time he was in, Animal worked hard & Cactus great. Highlight moves: Cactus being railed over the fence into the fans and Hawk tossing a chair at Jack. Also, a Bigelow suplex of Norm. The finish: as Sullivan/Cactus doubleteam Animal, Hawk climbs to the top for the Warrior clothesline and pins Kevin in 9:18. DRAW-PLUS....excellent early crowd heat.

MARK CALLOUS d. JOHNNY ACE: Johnny scored early with a Sting fly over the top onto Callous. But this was to get Mark over as a heartpuncher on a non-prelim guy. Crowd largely quiet. After Ace scored a 2 1/2 with a cross body block at 2:45, he was overpowered but Mark has absolutely no color (a la Sid). Finish: a Mark heart-punch & flying elbow from top at 8:28. BOMB-PLUS...best part was the SLAM-O-METER rating of 8.2 on Mark's finishing elbow.

WILD SAMOANS d. MIKE ROTUNDA/TOMMY RICH: This was more like a middle match on POWER HOUR. Mike scored with two big dropkicks on Fatu at 2:40. Fatu power suplexed Rotunda at 7:10. Rotunda tossed over top at 9:00 & then took savate kick to face. Long restholds made it drag & Tommy couldn't get the crowd cranked up. Rich finally tagged in at 13:50 & Tommy caught Fatu in sleeper but Tonga caught Rich off the top & Fatu scored the fall at 14:23. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

HAIR MATCH: PAUL ELLERING d. THEODORE R. LONG: Not even in the league with Cornette-Paul E. of last year but Teddy's headgear was a scream. Ellering sold Teddy's loaded gloves for a minute, then pulled the glove off, decked Long and pinned him at 1:55. Not really a full shave of Teddy but a chop of the ringlets. RESTHOLD...a few yuks.

U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP / MIDNIGHT EXPRESS d. TOM ZENK/BRIAN PILLMAN: Cornette, trying to avoid cage, was derailed by a Randy Anderson clothesline & P&Z threw him in jail. Strong wrestling and combos in first 10 minutes until Pillman hurls self over top at 11:20, then takes a neckbreaker and is railed. Bobby showed a variation of the Tully Blanchard slingshot at 13:00. Crowd cooled until M Ex took command with fourteen 2-counts on Brian, including a 2 5/6 from an Eaton top rope legdrop at 18:30. Zenk finally tagged in at 18:55 and escaped Rocketlauncher at 2 3/4. Eaton then crotched himself on a crash attempt at 20:00. But Lane hit Zenk from behind with a savate kick & Eaton packaged him at 20:18 to take the belts for the third time. POWERSLAM...Zenk was weak but Pillman and Eaton tremendous.

ANGLE I: Sting & Robocop introed and Ole, Arn & Sid toss Sting in the cage. But Robocop calmly rips the door off the cage to free Sting & Horsemen scatter. Crowd pops big.

ANGLE II: Junkyard Dog, in interview with Tony Schiavone, is interrupted by Jim Cornette. Corny asks where JYD has been all these months. JYD announces an address which turns out to be Cornette's "mother's" house & Junk takes away the tennis racket as Corny flees. Angle rushed and weak.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT MATCH / ROCK & ROLL EXPRESS d. FREEBIRDS: Hottest match to this point. Ricky & Robert went for the straps first at 3:50 and followed with double figure-4 at 6:45 before 'Birds escaped & Michael began whipping Robert. But R&R chased the 'Birds again at 8:00 with double whips. Hayes rallied for three strong elbows & 2-count at 13:00 & followed with bulldog. After long exchanges, Gibson went for sleeper on Hayes but Morton tossed out. Hayes scores DDT on Gibson at 18:05. But Morton rams Garvin into ringpost and cradles Hayes for pin off top at 18:38, then whips both 'Birds out. POWERSLAM-PLUS...R&R carried this one and was far superior to the Zenk/Pillman-'Birds bomb at WRESTLE WAR.

COMBAT CLIPS

Quoting WCW prez Jack Petrik on info in Page 3 column: "I don't know where this is coming from. We're not selling this company to (Bob) Wussler or anyone else." But we had two calls Saturday from sources who insist it's going to happen. ....JYD was supposed to wrestle for Joe Pedicino in Carrollton GA Friday night. Two hours before the show, he told them he had "signed with the NWA to replace Lex Luger in Washington." He really said it....Bob Roop & Ron West replace Wahoo McDaniel as road agents....Former AWA world champ Stan Hansen is in, at least between Japan trips, a sign that Ole can still call in favors. He did TV last week, will this week and is going to get a big push....Brad Armstrong may be in as The Candyman, a tie-in with M&Ms....Paul E. Dangerously takes over Mark Callous in a TV angle this weekend.

Teddy Long had threatened early in the week to walk over the loss to Ellering but we're also told he was getting bad advice from some NWA personnel....The announcing was again strong and the Ross/Caudle combo rarely relies on cute lines but probably Ross was stronger with background info than at any show since CHI-TOWN RUMBLE last year and Bob was his usual steady self....We're told the Road Warriors' last show is May 31 for the NWA but their WWF start is uncertain.

If there was a weaker spot to the telecast, it appeared to be lighting. The early shots of Ross/Caudle appeared dim. But the audio was strong (except for two segment glitches), particularly the in-ring reactions....Tony Schiavone looked good in the Brent Musberger role. I just think he needs to regrow the moustache because he looks 15 years old. But Gordon Solie seemed miscast as the Sting/Robocop reporter. Gordon was too serious and this is where they missed Chris Cruise or Terry Funk...Speaking of Cruise, he's agreed to do the LPWA syndie show this fall....Some of CONNIE CHUNG's comments are bound not to set well with this troupe.

Some final comments on the main event: I was fairly convinced early in the week the belt would not change. I feel the promotion deserves credit for telling as much of the truth about Luger's hospitalization as it probably ever has in such an event. But that angle cemented that this is going to revert to a Horsemen promotion and I am intensely convinced the Horsemen are yesterday's news. If I'm wrong, so be it. But I just sense a distinct number of fans who shelled down their $14.95 saying they'd had enough after yet another screw job. Not only did it cripple, in my view, Luger as a contender (they can't sell that match again for at least two years) but it probably did as much to weaken Flair's strength as a champion as those years under Dusty's leadership because this was an outright worse save than Luger leaving the ring at WW'90 to save Sting. Plus, the end of the show appeared to be so rushed that there wasn't a strong tie-together of what had happened. I hate to say it, gang, but this ultimately hurt both performers and if a title change is not imminent, indifference will permanently infect.

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

HENNIG WINS WWF INTERCONTINENTAL BELT

AUSTIN TX---Curt Hennig won the Intercontinental heavyweight title in a championship match over Tito Santana here April 23.

The match was shown as the finale of I-C tourney highlights on the WWF SUPERSTARS show to cap the May ratings sweeps.

The tourney climaxed a two-year rise to a championship for Hennig after losing the AWA belt to Jerry Lawler in May 1988.

In a related WWF note, Dusty Rhodes has returned to action after a reported leg injury, resuming a series with Randy Savage. Roddy Piper had substituted for Rhodes in the interim.

LAWLER REGAINS USWA BELT IN MEMPHIS

MEMPHIS----Jerry Lawler, in a match with stretcher rules, regained the Memphis half of the USWA "unified" championship May 7 with a victory over Jimmy Valiant.

Valiant, who had held the belt two weeks, fell victim to an old Lawler trick, the use of "chloroform," in an 11-minute match.

Lawler also lost a match to Kerry Von Erich May 11 in Dallas many Texas fans were told was for the USWA belt but KTVT/Dallas viewers were not told the contest was a title match.

NORTHWEST PROMOTION STARTS IN MISSISSIPPI

LOUISVILLE MS----Northwest Championship Wrestling, a new group working portions of Mississippi and possibly Alabama, began cards over the weekend.

Northwest ran cards in Louisville Friday and Noxapater MS Saturday. The Louisville show featured a one-night tournament for the NCW heavyweight championship.

Among the listed contenders were the Southern Rocker, the Stormtroopers and Tracey Youngblood.

MATWATCH HOTLINE

Messages can still be left on the MATWATCH HOTLINE (205) 826-RING but we are only there on weekends. Other calls may be sent to Holiday Inn in Jackson TN (901) 668-4100 evenings.

Ole Named Booker

DEATH OF A COMMITTEE: FIZZLE OF A MERGER

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Since MATWATCH last published, rumors of the death of the ill-fated World Championship Wrestling booking committee and even the promotion itself have surfaced. Compiled by reports from insiders and individuals close to WCW, the following is an approximate diary of the events involved.)

It was, as the saying goes, quite a week. Or maybe two or three weeks. But amid new rumors of impending sale of the NWA, Ole Anderson was named booker for World Championship Wrestling May 9. While Anderson will use input from others within WCW, the former guru of Georgia Championship Wrestling in its glory WTBS days of the early 1980s will assume full control over creative content.

Steve Beverly

Concurrently, Turner officials were vehemently denying reports which surfaced in New York and Georgia May 11 that the NWA is for sale. Sources had told MATWATCH talks had been held for a possibly buyout from Comsat, Inc. The company is a satellite TV entity headed by former TBS executive Bob Wussler. One source said the deal would involve continued programming agreements between TBS and Comsat. THE WRESTLING OBSERVER received similar information. But one TBS source called it "preposterous." Another WCW insider said, "We have our detractors but do you think we'd be selling when our key executives don't know anything about it?" Another source called it "an outright lie."

The changes began to evolve more than three weeks ago when TBS execs decided the constantly-changing committee makeup had ceased to be effective. MATWATCH had learned the week ending April 29 of the committee's doomed fate. The group, which had been organized in April 1989 after the firing of George Scott as booker, has included Jim Ross, Ric Flair and Jim Herd as chairmen and at least 14 different members or affiliated members.

The weekend ending the 29th, minority WCW partner Jim Crockett, who sold the NWA to TBS in 1988, was offered the booking job, according to insiders. For months, Crockett had written critiques of the NWA creative efforts to WCW president and TBS board member Jack Petrik. Crockett has been particularly critical of Flair and Ross as bookers. Recently, he began appearing at arena shows and booking meetings after a 10-month exile to his Dallas home. But for unspecified reasons, Crockett rejected the job.

Next on the agenda was Cowboy Bill Watts, a popular favorite for the job with a majority of newsletter subscribers. Watts, who has been out of wrestling since selling his UWF promotion to Crockett in 1987, had a brief interview for the job after Scott's firing but the meeting ended abruptly. This time, Watts---according to people close to him---felt he could turn the promotion's sagging arena fortunes around, particularly if front office and talent changes were made. Watts was in Atlanta for discussions May 1 and 2 but the negotiations fell apart on two issues: money and control. The salary offer, Watts felt, was too low. But the major stumbling block came when Watts demanded only to report to Petrik and not to WCW executive vice president Jim Herd. As sources have told MATWATCH, Watts felt Herd should run the business end and he (Watts) should run the wrestling and both report to Petrik. The meeting ended with Watts not being hired.

The morning of May 3, MATWATCH spoke to Petrik, who told us at the time Watts had not been eliminated but concerns remained over the content of his past wrestling shows, which once topped national cable ratings in its old MID-SOUTH format. But Petrik alluded to a number of other candidates who

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STEVE BEVERLY

(Continued from Page 3)

were either under consideration or had been suggested by others in the company. The list included Dusty Rhodes, J.J. Dillon, Ted DiBiase, Verne Gagne, Greg Gagne and Jerry Jarrett. Petrik was asked about the names Len Denton (Portland), Roddy Piper (who was instrumental in reviving Portland), Jerry Lawler or Bill Dundee (both USWA and experienced bookers).

Petrik said, "I don't think Piper would have the kind of long-term commitment necessary to do this job," and by the time of this issue of MATWATCH, Piper will know the fate of his TAG TEAM pilot for ABC. As for Denton, Petrik said his name had been mentioned "in passing." While he was not specific on Rhodes, who had been fired by TBS as booker in December 1988, insiders believe Crockett was openly pushing either Rhodes or Dillon.

As for DiBiase, Petrik said, "We don't know if Ted has ever done this before but as someone suggested to me, all of these people had to do it for the first time somewhere and he may just have the ideas we're looking for, if he were interested." MATWATCH contacted several insiders and none could ever remember a DiBiase stint as booker but a number felt he may be a quality candidate, one saying he likely would "not be a selfish booker." One thing Petrik insisted was that this time the booker would "indeed not be an active wrestler," a vow the company backed off from when the committee was formed and when Flair later assumed the duties.

At the time, it appeared serious interest was focusing on Jarrett, the USWA/CWA owner, whose Sid Vicious, Mark Callous (Master of Pain) and Scott Steiner have become star performers for the NWA in the last year. At the time, Ole Anderson's name was not even on the list and one source told MATWATCH Watts had been shown a list of people WCW wanted axed and Anderson's was reportedly one of them. Watts was non-committal on the list.

The following is an account given to MATWATCH of the days of May 4-5. Herd flew to Dallas to meet with Jarrett and Lawler. Lawler had been informed of the possibilities and was "very interested." However, the meeting turned into a proposal for a three-way "merger" of the NWA with USWA/CWA and the AWA. A similar deal would be pitched to Verne Gagne the next night in St. Paul. Jarrett and Lawler would have been provided front-office jobs, MATWATCH has been told, in exchange for the NWA taking over the smaller groups and their TV time periods. Jarrett was not impressed. He counterproposed a $4.5 million asking price for his two promotions. As a source close to Jarrett told us, "Jerry felt the deal was only going to benefit the NWA and he would get nothing out of it but an office job. He wasn't going for that."

In fact, Jarrett reportedly called Gagne, with whom relations had been sour since a blowup over payoffs from the ill-fated SUPER CLASH III pay-per-view in December 1988 in which Lawler won the "unified" AWA/USWA world title belt, later stripped from him by Gagne in the AWA but retained in the Jarrett group. MATWATCH has not been able to learn specifics of the Jarrett-Gagne conversation.

The next night on the AWA card in which Ric Flair defeated Brian Pillman in a 40-minute match, an AWA insider was telling people the Gagnes were going to work for the NWA and a return NWA-AWA combined show would be scheduled June 23. In addition, a proposal had been discussed (whether this was told to Herd is uncertain but it had been apparently tossed around in the AWA office) for Larry Zbyszko to turn babyface as AWA champion to prepare for a "unification" match against Flair (a scenario which would change if Lex Luger won the NWA world belt at CAPITOL COMBAT).

However, the evening of May 6, MATWATCH received a call indicating a majority of NWA wrestlers were under the impression Dusty Rhodes was definitely returning as booker. Several, the source said, were extremely nervous. MATWATCH was told several different stories on the Rhodes situation: 1) He felt he would get the call and stayed by the phone until May 8 when he learned it would not be him, then suddenly recovered enough from his recent injury to return to WWF action; 2) Rhodes would not take any calls from the NWA; 3) he was never seriously considered by Petrik.

The day of May 8, the winds shifted and for unknown reasons, the deal with the AWA, if it ever was a near-certainty, fell apart. Then, NWA insiders below the executive level, were being told Watts had settled his differences and would be coming in as booker, a story MATWATCH had been assured three days earlier was a dead issue.

Late in the afternoon of May 9, a memo was published in the WCW office announcing Anderson as the selection. Gagne was called and told the June 23 date was off and the proposed union was unproposed.

Anderson's choice totally stunned the promotion and wrestling hardcores. Since returning to WCW last fall, Anderson has been openly critical of TBS and Herd as non-wrestling entities. Earlier this year, he dropped off the committee to which he was appointed by Flair. The promotion was insistent he leave the ring after WRESTLE WAR '90.

When quizzed as to why Ole was picked, one insider close to WCW but not employed by the promotion, offered an independent view: "It's getting so bad, the fact is, nobody wants to take the job. Would you, considering the fact that it's been less than the most secure place to work?"

Petrik, in his conversation with MATWATCH, placed a different view on the situation. "Our TV ratings are good, advertising revenue for TV is doing well and we've got a handsome talent roster. We've just got to get our arena shows moving and we just can't seem to get a handle on it, except in an occasional situation, such as the Meadowlands."

Stories are mixed as to how much money the NWA has lost for Turner Broadcasting since its purchase in November 1988. One TBS executive told Titan Sports employees recently that the company had "lost $17 million," something which has been publicly denied. MATWATCH specifically asked Petrik if reports were true the company has lost a million dollars a month, as reports predominantly indicate. Petrik called that estimate "outrageous," although "we have had our definitive losses because of the poor showings at the arenas."

Jarrett was told a lot of the red ink came from expensive start-up costs, including the actual purchase of Jim Crockett Promotions, increased production expenses for CLASH specials and buying of talent contracts. The USWA owner was given a figure of "$4 million" as an actual operating deficit. Initial press releases at the time of the company's purchase, in the HOLLYWOOD REPORTER, called the Turner/Crockett union "an eight-figure deal." Crockett reportedly still holds 35% interest.

Financially and creatively, the job Anderson has is a massive one. The company has been at struggle in recent months between a new generation of personality-oriented performers and the desire of veteran stars to maintain a high-workrate, violence-oriented promotion which has heavy to hardcore fans, a predominantly 30-40-year-old age bracket fond of wrestling's early 1980s, heavily peppered with bulletin subscribers. Whether that style of wrestling will be commercial in 1990 or ever again is debatable, even to the point of whether Watts would have been the best choice.

PRO WRESTLING TORCH and WRESTLING OBSERVER columnist Jeff Bowdren has said, "Everybody keeps wanting Watts but remember, Watts was the guy who gave everybody THE ONE MAN GANG as the UWF world champion when Terry Gordy went to Japan. Watts was the guy who brought us Savannah Jack as TV champion. He was great for the TV business but he made his mistakes toward the end, too." Chicago's Steve Sims has added, "Watts produced the greatest TV shows in the world in the mid-'80s. They were so great, few people turned out for his house shows." However, other insiders, including this columnist, have lobbied for Watts because he appeared to be the best choice as far as having firm ideas of a direction, even if those ideas were wrong, and because---in my view---if World Championship Wrestling ultimately fails as a promotion and Watts does not have a crack at it, TBS and a lot of NWA fans are going to have a lot of days of asking, "What if?..."

As for Anderson, he was last a full-time booker when his Georgia promotion retained a slot on the SuperStation after the 1984 Black Saturday takeover of TBS wrestling by Vince McMahon. Anderson initially showed signs of being competitive, when he worked a sharing agreement with Crockett and Jarrett to participate in the Saturday morning series.

But first Crockett, then Jarrett, pulled away from the merger. Mired with a weak studio show in a time period few viewers west of the Mississippi could see, Anderson began losing money and the talent roster deteriorated. Watts raided him for DiBiase, Jake Roberts, Brad Armstrong and Tim Horner. The WWF took Jimmy Hart and Randy Savage, both who appeared on the early 1984 Georgia shows, and Anderson, whose top stars were himself, Thunderbolt Patterson, Tommy Rich and Ronnie Garvin, began hiring rookies and lesser veterans such as Rip Rogers, Ron Ritchie, a young Paul Diamond, Ron Starr, Fred Ottman (now WWF's Tugboat) as Sigfried and long-forgotten J.R. Hogg as lead heel manager. The promotion lasted only nine months and Anderson was forced to sell to Crockett.

Whether Anderson can book a semi-national promotion, which has blanket TV exposure across the U.S. but promotes few shows west of Texas, can only be answered in upcoming weeks. The early line from within is that he is too traditional and if he follows the pattern as did Flair of using older, veteran stars and recycled angles, the effort will financially fail. At one point, he sought and was nixed for the now-defunct Continental booking job for the same reasons.

As for a possible sale, many close to the promotion would still not be surprised at one with failing arena attendance...along with the continued problems. But after the sale talk surfaced, one insider told MATWATCH: "We have people from other promotions calling in here every day wanting to come to work. That doesn't exactly sound like a place going on the block." But the magic of what will bring people back to arenas, if ever, has not been found in 19 months of ownership and a financial drain continues from the turnstiles. Perhaps Ole Anderson has that magic. He's in the seat of heat to give it a run.

Next week, a special MATWATCH editorial, only the sixth ever offered by this publication, detailing this publisher's view on the NWA's future.

MATWATCHING

WHO'S SIGNED?: Much ado about the status of Ric Flair's contract extension. Word from the road last week was that Flair was balking again at dropping the belt to Luger because TBS officials allegedly had not signed the pact. However, other sources told us TBS has in fact signed it and Flair has not. Ain't life interesting?

FEUDIN' & FIGHTIN': Overall, some of the funniest moments of the FAMILY FEUD sequences were between host Ray Combs and Road Warrior Animal. Particularly when in FAST MONEY, Ray asked Animal to "name a word that rhymes with rush." Animal said, "Cush." That was the day they fell $4 short of $5,000.

WHOSE ROOS?: That ROOS pair the NWA guys gave Combs was one more than I've ever found in a store. But if you've ever asked what's in a name? The confusion over this whole NWA/WCW bit was never more evident than when Gene Wood would introduce them as "the grapplers from the National Wrestling Alliance," then Combs would call them "from World Championship Wrestling."

AND WHO ELSE?: And you'd have to give Combs multiple BLOOPER AWARDS for this: he referred to the NWA guys as being from "the World Federation," "the National Wrestling Association" and "the National Wrestling Federation." Out of that three, one could have assumed either the NWF or the WWF was represented.

BACK IN THE SOUTHEAST: That SOUTHEASTERN CHAMPIONSHIP show is back on in Chattanooga. But with no mention of former booker Chance Myers, who escaped under intense fire from the principals. Note to Dan Curtis: the SECW tape I sent you was returned to me. We'll try again this week.

AT THE MIKE: The "Southeastern champion" The Superstar is co-hosting the SECW show with J.C. Carson. The small shows like this are the ones the blood is going to. The finale two weeks ago had Moondog Max in a nasty blood job double countout vs. Richie Dye.

NORTHEAST NOTES: The NORTHEAST promotion we told you about in THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES is being toplined by Davey Rich and a new Lord Humongous. Among the other regulars: the Rockin' Rebels (with Misty Lane), Michael C. Money & Hurricane Bronson (with C.J. Cash), Bobby Doll and Tracey Youngblood.

HELLO, J.D.: Speaking of Northeast, I came back to my TV station my second afternoon there and who was on the doorstep but J.D. McKay Jr. of RINGSIDE REFLECTOR. J.D. was in town for post-management training at Pizza Inn. It was great to see him and I told him if he gets much more training, he'll be working in the front office of a wrestling promotion.

MID-SOUTH MOANS: J.D. had been to the CWA card at the Mid-South Coliseum the night before when Lawler won back the USWA/Memphis belt. Only about 1,800 were in the house and as J.D. told me, "There just wasn't the same feeling as in those old Mid-South shows of the past. It seemed like only the hardcores were there and they just didn't have the fire in them they did in the early '80s." Brickhouse Brown and Sweet Daddy Falcone held onto the USWA tag team belts over the Southern Rockers on the same card.

MATWATCHING

CATALOGUE CLIPS: Since our **MATWATCH CATALOGUE** listings were printed, four new newsletters were sent our way, so we assure those editors of inclusion in future editions.

SUMMERTIME SPECIAL: After deliberation, we've decided to publish a late summer (August or September) annual-length volume, tentatively called **A FAN'S GUIDE TO WRESTLING ON TV.** We'll take you behind the scenes of decisionmaking, the functions of various TV jobs (producer, executive producer, i.e.) and follow up on columns last year on how TV syndication works and how programming decisions are made locally, which affect wrestling on your TV station. Don't send any money yet but we're looking at a 40-page edition, probably for $8.

BIG DADDY & BIG NICK: Joe Pedicino's **PRO WRESTLING '90** is getting sparks from a feud Nick Busich-Big Daddy feud. Canton and Lawrenceville crowds have lately popped for the two.

NEW DEALS: Pedicino has made a deal to return wrestling to the J&J Center in Athens, an **NWA** Thursday night hotbed in the '70s. **GEORGIA ALL-STAR** will run alternate Thursdays.

POWELL'S BACK: Jim Powell has opted to drop out of the Dirty White Boys in Memphis because his wife is expecting a child and he'll return to work for the Georgia group.

CLASH CARD: Tentative top four for the June **CLASH XI** on TBS from Charleston: Luger vs. Arn Anderson (this one is "supposed" to be for the world title---but as we're told, don't count on anything, pending **CAPITOL COMBAT** and a new booker), Steiners vs. Flair & Windham with Sting in the Steiners' corner and Sid Vicious in the Horsemen corner (no, the robot from **LOST IN SPACE** won't be here), Zenk vs. Bigelow and Norman vs. Sid.

MAY IN ORLANDO: Only five of the eight announced matches at the **WWF** show here May 5 came off. This was one of the few places the crowd blew up when Dusty was announced as a no-show but they calmed when Piper was in to replace him.

OTHER PROBLEMS: On the same show, Paul Diamond beat Brady Boone and in a rare **WWF** victory, Black Bart pinned Enrico. Tugboat also no-showed. The Arena offered refunds but most of the 7,400 stayed. Next: June 2 with Hennig-Beefcake.

TV TEMPO: **TEMPO** and **LINES OF THE WEEK** return as soon as I get permanently moved to Jackson and can watch the shows more closely. If you have info, please call me (after 7 p.m. CDT) at Holiday Inn of Jackson TN (901) 668-4100. Temporarily, mail to: WBBJ-TV, 346 Muse St., Jackson TN 38305.

MATWATCH CATALOGUE

(Additions from Page 10)

COACH KURT'S WRESTLING LINE, One Northwestern Plaza, 28411 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 315, SOUTHFIELD MI 48034. **EDITOR:** Kurt Schneider. **PUBLISHED:** Weekly. **RATES:** $40 (weekly), $22 (twice monthly). **FORMAT:** Reprints of Kurt's weekly column in Detroit suburban **ROYAL OAK DAILY TRIBUNE.**

WRESTLING THEN AND NOW, P.O. Box 471, Oakland Gardens Station, FLUSHING NY 11364. **EDITOR:** Evan Ginzburg. **PUBLISHED:** Monthly. **RATES:** $1.25 per issue, $6 for 6 issues. Overseas add $1 per issue. **FORMAT:** Lots of ring nostalgia, Evan's **WRESTLING TIME MACHINE** and results updates.

RING AROUND THE NORTHWEST, 2470 S.E. Llewellyn, TROUTDALE OR 97060. **EDITOR:** Mike Rodgers. **PUBLISHED:** Monthly. **RATES:** 50 cents per issue. **FORMAT:** Extensive coverage of the Portland circuit and indies around the Pacific Northwest.

BETWEEN THE ROPES, 336 Harbor Dr., LIDO BEACH NY 11561. **EDITOR:** Adam Horowitz. **PUBLISHED:** Monthly. **RATES:** $1 per issue. **FORMAT:** Adam covers associational news and recently profiled former promoter and referee Ron West.

GLOBAL WRESTLING NEWS SERVICE, 31 Groveland St., SPRINGFIELD MA 01108. **EDITOR:** Tom Burke. **PUBLISHED:** Monthly. **RATES:** $1.50 per issue plus a SASE, $7 for 5 months, $21 for 15 issues. International: $26 for 15. **FORMAT:** Tom has great collections of old clippings and results he shared with me for research. Also, results/news from around the world.

INSIDE INFORMATION, 5585 Twin Knolls Road, Columbia MD 21045. **EDITOR:** Keith Alioto. **PUBLISHED:** Twice a month. **RATES:** $7 for 6 issues, $13 for 12 issues, $25 for 1 year. **FORMAT:** Andy has just begun this one with federation reports, media updates, and independent report by Andy Vineberg, along with special coverage for Baltimore area fans.

RATINGS RAP

CABLE
(FOR WEEKS ENDING)

	APRIL 30	MAY 7	MAY 14
NWA MAIN EVENT	3.1/6.6	0.9/1.9*	2.1/4.9
WWF PRIME TIME	3.1/5.0	2.7/4.2	3.3/5.2
NWA WORLD CHAMP.	2.4/6.2	2.6/6.1	2.4/5.4
WWF ALL-AMERICAN	2.1/6.3	2.4/7.3	2.5/7.5
NWA POWER HOUR	2.1/3.8	1.8/3.2	1.3/2.7**
NWA POWER (REPEAT)	0.8/6.7	0.9/7.3	1.1/9.4

* - 11 P.M. AIRING   ** - 11:10 P.M. AIRING

SYNDICATION
(FOR WEEKS ENDING)

	APRIL 23	APRIL 30
WWF	8.5/248	8.4/256
NWA	7.2/176	5.9/173

I, for one, do not believe (Curt) Hennig will take the I-C belt because all the announcers have predicted he is the favorite. When an announcer pushes a wrestler to win a belt, he usually doesn't (though when Sting returns, that might be the exception). I really don't care who wins because I really don't like the pairings. No Rhodes, no Earthquake or Barbarian.

One last comment on (Terry) Funk. WCW is trying to pull over the McMahon kids. I agree with you that Funk could have come up with a "kiddie brainstorm." WCW is making a big mistake by letting Funk go. I believe he could have brought WCW closer to McMahon in viewers & fans. I too have written WCW to bring back the Funker. To me, he's a clown as an announcer but he's a dedicated hardworking company man.

JEFF SUREFF
PIKESVILLE MD

Isn't it amazing what people will say and do to justify their behavior for "business reasons?" Whether it is to malign one's character or denigrate someone for the sheer thrill of it or because one is on a power trip, it never ceases to amaze me how bookers, wrestlers and editors all make mistakes again and again.

So something like the 3/24-25 weekend fiasco will never happen again. The damage has already been done, runing what could have been the most profitable PPV of the year May 19. Instead of Flair going for his seventh title reign, now we will see a sideshow circus of a steel cage, plus more combatants outside the ring than inside. If Luger does take the belt, it will be as much a tainted victory as Randy Savage's WRESTLEMANIA IV win, where Hogan and Elizabeth contributed as much as he did. Then if Luger doesn't draw, the blame will be placed on him and of course, he'll toss barbs onto everyone in sight, including sheet editors and bookers.

JEFF COHEN
FANTASY FEDERATION
GREAT NECK NY

How can any wrestling promotion justify hiring "Flabdullah" the lowlife after his involvement in the senseless murder of Bruiser Brody in Puerto Rico? What happened to Owen Hart and the British Bulldogs? Why did the NWA drop the angle with Nitron as WOMAN's bodyguard? Is there any chance that Stan Hansen will wrestle for a major American promotion in the near future?

JOHN RIORDAN
GREAT NECK NY

(FSB: 1. I think that's too strong an indictment of Abby. He wasn't directly involved in the 1988 Brody affair, plus he's worked for many U.S. groups since. 2. Owen has a summer deal to work in Europe for Otto Wanz. The Bulldogs work overseas as a team and separately. 3. It was going nowhere. Face it, when a manager has to have a bodyguard, it's like a second cousin twice removed. They tried to get Nitron for Mark Callous' partner at WRESTLE WAR and couldn't find him. 4. Always possible but doubtful. Hansen makes enough in 16 weeks a year in Japan that he doesn't have to do the U.S.)

YOU SAID IT!!!

Maybe I'm wrong but I feel that Windham should have returned to the NWA as a "good guy," as they need top name "faces" bad right now. Windham gets the Horsemen back up to four and he is a better heel but those Windham-Flair bouts are hard to beat.

DAVID WILLIAMSON
CLEVELAND TN

I've always been fascinated with the inner workings of the wrestling business (e.g.: salaries, contracts, thought and planning into matchups, where these guys go when they disappear from the scene). The WWF and NWA seem to guard a lot of this info as if they were "atomic secrets." Hopefully, a lot of this info will be revealed in MATWATCH.

KEN SCHREIBER
RANDALLSTOWN MD

Call me a Hulkamaniac if you want but I thought the finish to the ULTIMATE CHALLENGE was horrible! Sure, the rumors about Hogan leaving are probably true now. Sure, they needed an angle for his departure. But being pinned so cleanly by the Anabolic Freak leaves a real bad taste in my mouth. To make things even more pathetic, his miss of his legdrop to set up the pin really started to make me sick! I guess what I'm really trying to say, as a "smart fan" is, for everything Hulk has done for McMahon and friends, the ending should have been different.

MIKE SAWYER
NIAGARA FALLS NY

Since the NWA has re-signed Eddie Gilbert, any word yet on what his role will be? I don't expect he'll be part of the booking committee (though he most certainly should be) but I don't want to see this talent wasted doing jobs another year.

CHRIS MARTIN
SPRINGFIELD IL

(FSB: Chris, I'm told this subject has been constantly debated in Atlanta without any firm decisions. It appears the Committee is history but I agree on the waste comments.)

Based on the main event alone, I really felt satisfied by WM6. As a WRESTLEMANIA, not really near III for overall production and the matches themselves. But much better than either of the Trump Plaza shows.

Question: what's the air date for Danny Wolf's nostalgia special on FNN/SCORE?

STEVE GENNARELLI
BINGHAMTON NY

(FSB: Steve, I checked on that just two weeks ago and with FNN/SCORE re-converting to a sports programming service, I don't think a firm date has been established. Danny has lately done a couple of short wrestling features for SCORE.)

YOU SAID IT!!!

(Continued from Page 7)

Doesn't the NWA realize the only fans they have left are the hardcores? They lost the millions of casual fans all to the WWF months ago. WCW is a complete joke of a company. Look at the last two shows: WRESTLE WAR and WRESTLEMANIA. WM saw Vince give the fans a clean pinfall and new champ, which will keep it interesting all year. WW saw a stupid screw job which is because of all the ego stupidity behind the scenes. To solve this problem, WCW thinks picking on you will solve it.

SCOTT MADSEN
PLYMOUTH MN

I appreciate the honesty in your reporting. I'm not left with that feeling that you've held back info. Only complaint is I feel too much emphasis is placed on lines of the week. Maybe your own "Dear Abby" segment of questions and answers, as a suggestion, might garner some response. It would allow you to relate to your subscribers on a more personal basis as well as provide an interesting segment to MATWATCH that will keep us readers informed.

MICHAEL C. HAGAPIAN
MANCHESTER NH

(FSB: Thanks for the suggestion. We have done Q-and-A and perhaps we'll include it more often in Year III).

MATWATCH SUBSCRIPTIONS

(U.S./CANADA) $6 for 7 issues, $19 for 26 issues, $36 for 1 year.

(OVERSEAS) $10 for 7 issues, $36 for 26, $65 for 1 year.

(GIFT OFFER) You receive 2 free bonus issues for every 7-issue set you give, up to a maximum of 13 bonus issues in one year.

CHECK, CASH or MONEY ORDER to: (BEFORE May 31) STEVE BEVERLY, 213 PINE HILLS AVE., AUBURN AL 36830.

(AFTER May 31) STEVE BEVERLY, 16 ROBIN HOOD LANE, JACKSON TN 38305.

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IF GIFT, GIFT FROM ______________________________

I REMEMBER....

Dick Slater vs. Ric Flair (1979)

COLUMBUS, Ga. --- Those golden Wednesday nights at the Municipal Auditorium here rarely failed to surprise. This was a year when the future NWA champion was making a short-term swing on the Georgia circuit.

You knew he was headed for stardom. You just couldn't predict when he'd hit his pinnacle.

But the recently turned babyface Slater was on a roll. With the Georgia title back around his waist, Slater was now facing his most intense challenger.

Flair hadn't patented his top-rope beg and bump but he was perfecting those classic chops. And for 11 minutes, he battered Slater almost all the way to the Confederate Naval Museum next door.

At the 12-minute mark, Flair went for the figure-4 and Slater rallied enough to shove Ric into a turnbuckle. He then went to work with a series of elbows and bodyslams which sent Flair reeling outside.

Amid intense cheers which included those of First Mama Lillian Carter, Slater went to power Flair into a ringpost and missed. Five years later, Flair may have let loose with a "now we go to school" but settled for a "WOOOOO" instead.

Dragging Slater back inside, Flair used three consecutive bodyslams and a trademark knee to the head in an attempt to set up Slater for the kill.

But as Flair rolled for the figure-4 again, Slater, foreshadowing the finale at STARRCADE '89, cradled Flair into a small package for the fall at the 18-minute mark amid huge eruptions from the 5,200 inside.

As was Slater's trademark at the time, he rolled immediately at a symmetrical tempo out of the ring and left Flair to milk the heat from the audience.

But I won't forget the words of promoter Fred Ward that night after the match: "Mark my word, that boy's going to be one of the biggest stars ever." Fred knew. And somehow, despite his loss, the crowd did, too.

MATWATCH HOTLINE

The MATWATCH HOTLINE (205) 826-RING is only active on weekends between Friday nights at 10 p.m. (EDT) and Sundays at 4 p.m. (EDT) during our transition period between Auburn and Jackson. Feel free to call during those hours. A new MATWATCH HOTLINE number will be established in the next three weeks in Jackson TN.

MATWATCH
Vol. 2, No. 45 May 21-27

MATWATCH CATALOGUE

MATWATCH would like to offer its readers the opportunity to sample any and all publications on the market. More than 20 known newsletters are now published in the U.S., Canada and Australia. This is as extensive a compilation as we can provide at this time, based on regular trades and information supplied us by publishers.

PRO WRESTLING ENQUIRER/HEADLINE NEWS, 2619 Ruffin Way, NORFOLK VA 23504. EDITOR: Harvey Cobb. PUBLISHED: Monthly. RATES: $2.25 (single issue), $27.00 (year). FORMAT: news updates, profiles, ratings, TV show reviews.

NEW ENGLAND WRESTLING SCENE, 521 Pine St., #A-304, MANCHESTER NH 03104. EDITOR: Jody Boyns. PUBLISHED: Biweekly. RATES: $7 (13 issues), $15 (26 issues), Overseas (add $2). FORMAT: Reviews of TV wrestling in greater New England area and arena reports from Boston, Providence, Worcester, Portland, Manchester, Lowell.

PRO WRESTLING THIS WEEK, 32 Taxiera Rd., STOUGHTON MA 02072. EDITOR: Vinnie Carolan. PUBLISHED: Weekly. RATES: 50 cents per issue to a maximum of $10 for 20. FORMAT: Association reviews and reader mail.

THE WRESTLING OBSERVER, P.O. Box 1228, CAMPBELL CA 95009-1228. EDITOR: Dave Meltzer. PUBLISHED: Weekly. RATES: $5 for every 4-issue set (U.S./CANADA), $9 for 4-issue set (OVERSEAS). FORMAT: THE NEW YORK TIMES of pro wrestling with every smidgen of news and comment from all over the world, along with reader mail.

THE WRESTLING PERSPECTIVE, P.O. Box 401, CAMILLUS NY 13031-0401. EDITORS: David Skolnick/Paul MacArthur. PUBLISHED: Monthly. RATES: $1 per issue. FORMAT: 6-8 pages with crisp commentary from two fans who have loved the sport for years. Strong writing and quality computer layout.

PRO WRESTLING TORCH, P.O. Box 201844, MINNEAPOLIS MN 55420. EDITOR: Wade Keller. PUBLISHED: Biweekly. RATES: $1.25 per issue. FORMAT: Associational updates, columns from Wade, one of the top young editors in the game, and several regular columnists, including Bill Kunkel, Jeff Bowdren and Ray Whebbe Jr. Plus, a color print of a different wrestler on the cover of each edition.

BUMP!, 6964 W. 84th St., MINNEAPOLIS MN 55438. EDITOR: Kris Pope. PUBLISHED: Weekly. RATES: $23.95 for 20 weeks, $36.95 for 35 weeks, $44.95 for a year. FORMAT: Professionally printed four-pager with lots of AWA news and reviews of other top associations, editorials and statistics, plus contributions by Mick Karch, Ron Trelstad and Ray Whebbe Jr.

WRESTLING STYLE, P.O. Box 711, LANHAM MD 20703-0711. EDITORS: Jim Dough/Joe DiCarlo. PUBLISHED: Weekly. RATES: (U.S./CANADA) $3 for every 4-issue set. (OVERSEAS) $3.80 for 4 issues. FORMAT: NWA, WWF, indie updates, a weekly wrestling calendar, along with Jim's STYLINGS column.

GAG, 541 Devonshire Dr., WOODSTOCK ONT, CANADA N4S 5P9. EDITOR: Jeff Zinger. RATES: No subscriptions taken for this wacko occasional publication but the latest issue, GROOVY GAG SPECIAL THING, is available for $1.50 in North America and $2 overseas. FORMAT: Every crazy thought anyone ever had about wrestling and its fans, along with a POTSHOT comic page. BACK ISSUES: The entire set is $10 (N.A.) and $13 (Overseas) and includes five issues of the MISSY HYATT FUN CLUB MAGAZINE.

ARENA REPORT, 916 Sloewood Ct., LAKE MARY FL 32746. EDITOR: Ron Lemieux. RATES: 75 cents an issue. PUBLISHED: Biweekly. FORMAT: Results and match ratings from around the country, good snippets from Ron---including a lot of inside Florida updates, reader mail and contributor columns.

TAPE UPDATE, 1806 Self Circle #B, JONESBORO AR 72401. EDITOR: Brian Tramel. RATES: 50 cents an issue. PUBLISHED: Monthly or bimonthly. FORMAT: Brian doesn't just sell tapes in this. It's a fun jaunt through the mind of America's top Memphis fan and a guy with a great sense of humor. Reader mail, Brian's columns and some controversy, along with great artwork on the cover.

RWRB PRO WRESTLING SUSHI, P.O. Box 36189, SAN JOSE CA 95158. EDITOR: Jeff Mullins. RATES: $1 per issue. PUBLISHED: Biweekly. FORMAT: An uproarious comedy look at pro wrestling and lots of recent commentary on the editor of MATWATCH, including my alleged triple split personality.

ANGLE, 330 S. Decatur, Suite 152, LAS VEGAS NV 89107. EDITOR: Bill Kunkel. RATES: $2.50 per issue. PUBLISHED: Quarterly. FORMAT: Cartoon and parody look at wrestling from one of the best artists in the business. Current issue includes Bill's CAPTAIN ULTIMATE and THE FACE OF KLON.

RINGSIDE REFLECTOR, Rt. 2, Box 291, LOUISVILLE MS 39339. EDITOR: J.D. McKay. RATES: $2 per issue. PUBLISHED: Every 4-6 weeks. FORMAT: 20-24 pages with crisp reader columns, good fan debates, occasional nostalgia pieces, PHANTOM OF THE RING (Ed Garea), lots of opinion and J.D. welcomes feature efforts from any readers. He also offers a free ink pen for every 6-issue or more subscription.

MATWATCH CATALOGUE

MAT REVIEW NEWSLETTER, P.O. Box 3357, SIMI VALLEY CA 93093. EDITOR: Ross Blair. PUBLISHED: Irregularly. RATES: $1. FORMAT: Ross offers plenty of reviews on ring movies, TV shows, federations and just published a color pic of the NWA guys on FAMILY FEUD.

FANTASY FEDERATION, 50 Shelley Lane, GREAT NECK NY 11023. EDITOR: Jeff Cohen. PUBLISHED: Every 6 weeks. RATES: $1 per issue (North America), $2 per issue (Overseas). FORMAT: An innovative fictional wrestling league, staffed by announcers, wrestlers and personnel at strategic points in their careers. The 8-pager includes 7 or 8 matchups and 2 co-main events. The June issue features a comic, RELAX WITH TRUDY, by Desmond Devlin. Jeff's column is called WORD OF MOUTH.

MAIN EVENT, P.O. Box 1602, STUDIO CITY CA 91614. EDITOR: Verne Langdon. PUBLISHED: Monthly. RATES: Write for them. FORMAT: The official publication of SLAMMERS' WRESTLING GYM, the fastest-growing ring locale in the country. You get updates on a lot of the current and nostalgic figures who frequent SLAMMERS, along with merchandising and gift offers.

CANADIAN WRESTLING REPORT, 15 Penrose Ave., KITCHENER ONT, CANADA N2A 1E9. EDITOR: Greg Oliver. PUBLISHED: Monthly. RATES: $1 each. FORMAT: The definitive Canadian newsletter with lots of coverage of Canadian cards, along with associational updates and nostalgic reviews. Computer layout.

(Several editors asked me to let you know their rates may increase with the anticipated postal rate increase---as will mine. But these are the current rates. MATWATCH would also appreciate hearing from other editors not included here.)

ON THE RADIO

The following is a listing of the known wrestling radio call-in and talk shows in the U.S. Others exist but we did not receive details from the hosts:

WRESTLING RAP, WALE (990), Providence RI. HOST: Cody Boyns. AIRS: Monday-Friday, 6:55-7:55 p.m. (EDT). FORMAT: Call-in and interview. M-W-F, Open Forum; T-Th, Guest Night, with wrestlers and newsletter publishers sharing the mike. CALL-IN NUMBER: (401) 621-WALE. (In Providence) 676-WALE.

PRO WRESTLING TALK (The Larry Katz Show), WCBM (680), Baltimore. HOST: Larry Katz. CO-HOSTS: Kimberly Murphy, Howard Goldman, Jerry Moshenberg. AIRS: Saturday night/ Sunday morning, 12 Midnight-2 a.m. FORMAT: Call-in/talk on national and local promotions with regular nationally-known guests, reaching central Maryland, northern Virginia and southern Pennsylvania. CALL-IN NUMBER: (301) 922-6680.

PRO WRESTLING SPOTLIGHT, WNYG (1440), Babylon NY. HOST: John Arezzi. AIRS: Sundays 5-7 p.m. (EDT). FORMAT: Call-in/talk/interview. John recently did a in-depth taped interview with Superstar Billy Graham and is about to market a tape of the best of PWS. CALL-IN NUMBER: (516) 661-4000.

WRESTLING RADIO, WWTC (1280), MINNEAPOLIS MN. HOST: Ray Whebbe/Scooter Pie. AIRS: Sundays, 7-8:30 p.m. (CDT) FORMAT: News, plugs, guests, call-ins, contests. Reaches 50-mile radius of Twin Cities. Guests have included Jim Brunzell, Tom Zenk, Brian Pillman, Paul E. Dangerously, Ricky Rice, Dallas Page, Sheik Adnan al-Kaissie and Wendi Richter.

WRESTLING RADIO, Station Unknown, PHILADELPHIA PA. HOST: Joel Goodhart. TIME: Joel's going to have to refresh me on this. FORMAT: Interviews and call-ins. Joel's recent show with Paul E. and Austin Idol was a scream!!!

INSIDE THE SQUARED CIRCLE, WMET, GAITHERSBURG MD. HOST: Rich (Dirty Dick) Daniel. AIRS: Tuesdays 7-8 p.m. (EDT). FORMAT: Jeff Zinger would be great on this show. Funny format with lots of call-ins and guests in the Washington area and an ensemble who could be THE 3 STOOGES of WRESTLING FANS.

(MATWATCH would appreciate more info on wrestling radio call-in shows in your area.)

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